

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 019941

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 019941

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION AMSTERDAM, ATHENS, BARCELONA,
BEIRUT, CAIRO, COPENHAGEN, FRANKFURT, GENEVA, ISTANBUL,
LISBON, LONDON, MADRID, MUNICH, NAIROBI, PARIS, ROME,
TEL AVIV, VIENNA, ZURICH, BONN, THE HAGUE, BERN, ANKARA
FROM SECSTATE JANUARY 30:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 019941

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, XT

SUBJ: CIVAIR - AIR SECURITY IN FOREIGN AIRPORTS

1. DEPARTMENT AND FAA HAVE EXPLORED WITH INDUSTRY
ADDITIONAL WAYS TO OBTAIN IMPROVEMENT OF AIR SECURITY AT
FOREIGN AIRPORTS (OTHER THAN THAT REFERRED TO IN STATE
16199). PLAN DEVELOPED FROM THESE DISCUSSIONS DESCRIBED
BELOW IN GENERAL TERMS. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE
ADDRESSED TO POSTS IN SEPARATE MESSAGES.
2. FIRST, INDUSTRY HAS SUBMITTED A LIST OF EIGHT
RECOMMENDED SECURITY PROCEDURES AT FOREIGN AIRPORTS WITH
WHICH FAA GENERALLY CONCURS (BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTEL).
3. SECOND, INDUSTRY HAS PROVIDED INFORMAL SURVEY OF
CERTAIN EUROPEAN, AFRICAN AND NEAR EAST AIRPORTS AS OF
JANUARY 11 - 16. DETAILS WILL PASS SEPTEL.

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PAGE 02 STATE 019941

4. THIRD, IT WAS AGREED THAT DEPT WOULD SEEK THROUGH COUNTRY TEAMS TO TRY TO BRING ABOUT IMPROVED SECURITY CONDITIONS AT PARTICULAR FOREIGN AIRPORTS. WE WOULD START WITH LOW KEY INFORMAL SUGGESTIONS BUT WOULD NOT RULE OUT HIGH LEVEL DIPLOMATIC INTERVENTION IF IT PROVED NECESSARY AND BELIEVED LIKELY TO PRODUCE RESULTS.

5. FOURTH, FAA WILL TRY TO ARRANGE FOR WASHINGTON REP FROM ITS SECURITY OFFICE TO VISIT CERTAIN FOREIGN AIRPORTS AT REGULAR INTERVALS. IN COURSE OF OTHER BUSINESS, HE WOULD SEEK OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE WITH FOREIGN SECURITY OFFICIALS IDEAS ON MEANS OF FORESTALLING ATTACKS ON AIRCRAFT AND AIRPORTS. HE WOULD ALSO OBSERVE FOREIGN AIRPORT SECURITY WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

6. FIFTH, U.S. AIRLINES WILL KEEP DEPT AND FAA INFORMED IN CONFIDENCE ON SECURITY CONDITIONS AT FOREIGN AIRPORTS.

7. SIXTH, IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO AVOID HAVING FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS BECOME AWARE THAT WE WERE LAUNCHING AN ORCHESTRATED PROGRAM. THEREFORE, ALTHOUGH LOCAL AIRLINE OFFICES MAY BE ASKED BY AIRLINE HEADQUARTERS TO CONTRIBUTE FACTUAL DATA, THEY WILL NOT BE INFORMED THAT A COOPERATIVE GOVERNMENT/INDUSTRY EFFORT IS INVOLVED. UNQUOTE
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